

MINUTES
PROTECTION & WELFARE COMMITTEE
Monday, October 30, 2017
City Hall, Room 207 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Randy Scannell, Ald. Bill Galvin, Ald. Guy Zima

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Vice Chairperson Barbara Dorff

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Asst. City Atty Joanne Bungert, Captain Keith Knoebel, Ald. David Nennig, Inspector Bill Paape and other interested parties.

1. Roll Call. Chairperson Scannell called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. Ald. Scannell and Ald. Galvin were present. Ald. Dorff was excused from the meeting. Ald. Zima arrived at Item #4 and Ald. Nennig stood in until then.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Nennig to approve the agenda. There were no objections and motion carried.

3. Approval of the minutes from the October 9, 2017 meeting.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Nennig to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2017 meeting. There were no objections and motion carried.

Ald. Zima arrived at the meeting and Ald. Nennig returned to the audience.

4. Consideration with possible action on a notice of change of agent for Funke's BC, LLC at 617 Lime Kiln Road.

The Police and Law departments had no objections.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to approve the change of agent for Funke's BC, LLC at 617 Lime Kiln Road.

There were no objections and motion carried.

5. Consideration with possible action on an application for an available "Class B" Combination License by Wirz Industries, LLC at 131 S. Washington St.

The Police and Law departments had no objections.

A motion was made by Ald. Zima and seconded by Ald. Galvin to approve an application for an available "Class B" Combination License by Wirz Industries, LLC at 131 S. Washington St., with the approval of the proper authorities. There were no objections and motion carried.

6. Consideration with possible action on an application for a “Class B” Combination License by Sunny’s Restaurant, Inc. at 875 Lombardi Ave. (currently Leatherhead Brewing Co.)

The Police and Law departments had no objections.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to approve an application for a “Class B” Combination License by Sunny’s Restaurant, Inc. at 875 Lombardi Ave. (Currently Leatherhead Brewing Co.), with the approval of the proper authorities. There were no objections and motion carried.

7. Consideration with possible action on an application for a “Class B” Combination License by Donald Rouse at 700 Bodart St. (currently Roundup Saloon).

The Police and Law departments had no objections.

Ald. Galvin asked if this was going to be a tavern or a restaurant.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to open the floor. Motion carried.

Donald Rouse, 1331 Bellevue St., spoke before the committee. He said the building capacity is 120 and it will be a tavern that sells frozen pizza.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to close the floor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to approve an application for a “Class B” Combination License by Donald Rouse at 700 Bodart St. (Currently Roundup Saloon), with the approval of the proper authorities. There were no objections and motion carried.

8. Consideration with possible action on an application for an available “Class B” Combination License by Rinconcito Hondureno, Inc. at 805 Klaus St.

The Police and Law departments had no objections.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to approve an application for an available “Class B” Combination License by Rinconcito Hondureno, Inc. at 805 Klaus St., with the approval of the proper authorities. There were no objections and motion carried.

9. Consideration with possible action on an application for a “Class A” Liquor License by Singhs C Store 2, Inc. at 952 W. Mason St. (Currently has beer only)

The Law Department had no objections.

The Police Department addressed concerns of recent failed compliance checks. Cpt. Knoebel said on April 11, the location failed the compliance check and sold to a person

underage. The clerk also did not have an operator's license. On May 7, they did pass the compliance check. On Oct. 20 at the 610 E. Walnut St. location, Mr. Shergill failed the compliance check.

Ald. Galvin wanted to deny the license due to the violations. Ald. Zima wanted to deny the license.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to deny an application for a "Class A" Liquor License by Singhs C Store 2, Inc. at 952 W. Mason St. (Currently has beer only), with the approval of the proper authorities. There were no objections and motion carried.

10. Consideration with possible action on an appeal by Ronald Shebuski to the denial of his Public Vehicle Operator License application.

The Law and Police departments recommended denial.

A motion was made by Ald. Zima and seconded by Ald. Galvin to open the floor. There were no objections and motion carried.

Ron Shebuski, 105 Cleveland St., spoke before the committee. He said his OWI was more than 15 years ago and the license issue was due to an unpaid fine, but has since been taken care of.

Ald. Zima asked if the employer is aware of Shebuski's past. He said yes.

Darryl Cleveland, 3017 Gemini Rd, spoke before the committee. Cleveland is owner of Native Cab and said he wants to help to get Shebuski's feet back in order. Cleveland supported the approval of his Public Vehicle Operator's License.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to close the floor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to approve an appeal by Ronald Shebuski to the denial of his Public Vehicle Operator License application. There were no objections and motion carried.

11. Consideration with possible action on an appeal by Nicole Skenandore to the denial of her Operator License application.

The Law and Police departments recommended denial.

There was no one present for the item. Asst. Cty Atty Bungert said notification was sent by mail regarding the meeting.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to deny an appeal by Nicole Skenandore to the denial of her Operator License application. There were no objections and motion carried.

12. Discussion with possible action on an ordinance relating to the prohibition of animals at special events with an exception to allow for the discretion of the special event holder in conjunction with the Special Events approval process.

Asst. Cty Atty Bungert handed out the revised ordinance.

Ald. Zima confirmed the ordinance would not allow animals at special events unless permission is given administratively. Asst. Cty Atty Bungert confirmed.

Ald. Zima wanted to know who would be held responsible if an incident occurred at the event. Asst. Cty Atty Bungert said it would be between the event holder and the complainant.

Ald. Zima felt uncomfortable when the legislative branch is cut out of the decision process. He wanted the permission for Special Events to go through the P&W Committee. He said historically these used to go through the committee.

Ald. Galvin addressed the concern of adding too much to the agenda and creating too long of a process for applicants. He noted how currently some do not get a chance to speak at meetings. Ald. Galvin wanted to hold this item until the next meeting so they could review code 6.15.

Ald. Zima wanted Special Events to go through the P&W Committee to allow people to have a vehicle to express concerns.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to open the floor. Motion carried.

Leah Weycker, organizer of the Military Avenue, Inc. Farmer's Market, spoke before the committee. Weycker felt a definition of a special event needs to be clear as she does not need a special event permit as her event is on private property.

A representative from Rinconcito Hondureno, Inc. wanted to confirm if agenda #8 was approved. The Committee confirmed they recommended approval.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to close the floor. Motion carried.

Ald. Scannell understood Ald. Zima's point, but said some special events happen quickly and did not want to delay processes. He was going to remain open minded.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to hold an ordinance relating to the prohibition of animals at special events with an exception to allow for the discretion of the special event holder in conjunction with the Special Events approval process and have a summary review of ordinance 6.15 regarding Special Events at the next P&W Committee Meeting. There were no objections and motion carried.

13. Discussion with possible action on a request by Ald. Nicholson to review the implementation of a fee for dog permits.

Ald. Nicholson was not present to discuss his request. Ald. Galvin thought it stemmed from the large volume of applicants wanting more than two dogs and the belief there should be a cost for it.

Ald. Galvin wanted the request to be reviewed to staff to determine how much time is invested by all city employees on average so the committee could determine an appropriate fee.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to refer to staff a request by Ald. Nicholson regarding a fee for dog permits to determine how much time is expended in review of the applications in order to determine an appropriate fee structure. There were no objections and motion carried.

Cpt. Knoebel was excused from the meeting.

14. Discussion with possible action on a request that the City develop a plan of action regarding the increasing rat problems on the west side of the City, as previously discussed at the Sept. 25, 2017 P&W Meeting.

Inspector Bill Paape, Neighborhood Development Manager, spoke before the committee. He presented an updated map regarding calls where areas are conducive of rats over the last 30 days. There were 62 complaints.

Ald. Galvin asked if there has been a reduction in calls. Inspector Paape said no, but there will be fewer calls with the colder weather coming.

Ald. Galvin asked if the City is being successful. Inspector Paape said he thinks so, but rats will always be there if there are abundances of food, water and harborage.

Inspector Paape said the City has met with three pest control companies that reviewed what the City was doing. The Inspections Department also updated the brochures and used some material the City of Seattle uses regarding rats.

Ald. Galvin asked if they are finding cooperation in an area where they are finding problems. Inspector Paape said the majority of the time they get compliance. He also noted if they do not there are tools in place to abate if necessary.

Inspector Paape also said they do a literature drop in a one block area where there is an area with several complaints to create better awareness.

Ald. Galvin asked about being more proactive and reviewing areas next spring that previously had issues this year.

Inspector Paape said there is limited-proactivity where the Inspections Department does review neighboring houses of a home a complaint has happened at.

Ald. Galvin wanted to ask if it would be feasible to have a pro-active approach.

Inspector Paape said they could do a trial run with the current staff they have to see how effective it would be.

Ald. Scannell asked if staff who pickup waste could report issues to the Inspections Department if they notice issues on route.

Ald. Galvin confirmed they could educate the staff to notice. If you see it, let us know.

Inspector Paape said education and enforcement is what the Inspections Department does. He said food, water and harborage is the criteria of what rats need. Inspector Paape said the root cause of rats is food, water and harborage sources. Once that is taken away, the rats will go away.

Ald. Zima said rat complaints are at an all-time high, Ald. Zima asked what changes have happened. He noted river levels up and maybe forced them out of their normal hang outs.

Ald. Zima said one of the differences could be the bulk pickup is not what it used to be. Ald. Scannell said it was being discussed at an upcoming I&S Committee.

Ald. Galvin asked the agenda item be referred to staff to look from Inspection Department to develop a proactive plan. Ald. Galvin said instead of Inspections waiting for complaints; have them be more proactive to try to head off the situations that we are seeing.

Ald. Zima said it may need more manpower and agreed to have the item referred to staff.

Ald. Zima asked if the world has changed that much. Inspector Paape said that in every City with a lot of people there have been rats as they have sanitation issues. They multiply when the resources are abundant. The numbers is up because the food and water sources are up. Human nature has not changed that much.

Ald. Galvin contributed social media and more awareness has increased calls. Ald. Scannell also said habitat disruption could be a reason.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to refer to staff to develop a pro-active inspection approach and plan to address the rat problems. There were no objections and motion carried.

A motion was made by Ald. Galvin and seconded by Ald. Zima to adjourn meeting. There were no objections and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.